



CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA – UPDATED 5/21/24

May 22, 2024 – 3:00 pm

This is an in-person meeting at Saugatuck City Hall, 102 Butler St, Saugatuck, MI 49453.

The meeting will also be available live, virtually on Zoom.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Agenda Changes** (*Additions/Deletions*)
- 4. Guest Speaker**
- 5. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only** (*Limit 3 minutes*)
- 6. Discussion Items:**
 - A. City Manager Interviews:**
 - a. Will Joseph – 3:00 p.m.
 - b. Ryan Cummins – 4:00 p.m.
 - c. Michael Sheahan – 5:00 p.m.

Move to extend a conditional offer of employment to _____ to serve as Saugatuck City Manager, contingent on a successful background check and contract negotiations. (roll call vote)

- 7. Public Comments** (*Limit 3 minutes*)
- 8. Correspondence:**
- 9. Council Comments**
- 10. Adjourn**

NOTICE:

Join online by visiting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2698572603>

Join by phone by dialing:

**(312) 626-6799 -or-
(646) 518-9805**

Then enter "Meeting ID":

2698572603

Please send questions or comments regarding meeting agenda items prior to meeting to:

rcummins@saugatuckcity.com

Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting.

Please contact Saugatuck City Clerk at 269-857-2603 or

jwolters@saugatuckcity.com for further information.

CITY OF SAUGATUCK

City Manager Interviews

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

3:00 P.M. William Joseph

Former Village Manager, Village of Paw Paw, MI

4:00 P.M. Ryan Cummins

Interim Manager, City of Saugatuck, MI

5:00 P.M. Michael Sheahan

Senior Operations Manager, U.S. Coast Guard Station Niagara

6:00 P.M. Council Deliberations



3:00 P.M.
William Joseph

Saugatuck Questionnaire - William Joseph

1. As a professional who has spent most of my adult life working and volunteering in local government I am motivated by understanding and perfecting the essential and quality of life services that underpin a successful community. I enjoy collaborating people and resources to achieve goals and fostering genuine relationships in the process. The City of Saugatuck is an exciting opportunity to be part of a premier Michigan coastal community representing the natural and community features I love about my home state. As a smaller community I look forward to having a personal and significant involvement in all areas of the organization and community.

2. I am currently a municipal executive in transition, my last role was the Village Manager for the Village of Paw Paw, MI. As an Village Manager I have experience in leading a team to accomplish many goals. Major focal points of my tenure were focused on infrastructure improvements including water and waste water distribution systems, park amenities, electric system distribution, event management, negotiating collective bargaining agreements and building institutional knowledge with succession plans for staff members. In my role as a Village Manager and formally as a Mayor in Mt. Pleasant I have had extensive experience fostering relationships amongst neighboring governmental units of government and residents. I have first had experience working with water distribution systems as a former water operator and have formally been trained in assessing through the State Tax Commission. My experience in a multitude of places and array of accomplishments will be strongly suited to continue the success of Saugatuck.

3. My proudest professional accomplishment is the successful negotiation of a purchase agreement for a 2.5 megawatt solar farm for the Village of Paw Paw. The Village of Paw Paw is a municipal utility and therefore adding this asset to the distribution system will save rate payers in Paw Paw thousands of dollars over the next several decades. The addition of solar power will also aid the Village in meeting sustainable generation goals mandated by the State of Michigan. As the mandate increases in thresholds the purchase of sustainable energy credits will dramatically rise. Owning their own solar farm will shield the Village from some of these cost increases therefore saving precious resources. The work to negotiate this agreement involved several entities including Paw Paw Township, The Village of Paw Paw, Sol-America, and the Michigan Public Power Agency. We were able to utilize land already owned by the Village at our Waste Water Treatment Lagoon Facility this single fact accomplished two feats. First we were able to save money by not having to pay for privately held land, by utilizing our own facility we avoided disturbing farm land and residential neighbors who may have had strong resentment to the project. This accomplishment took several months of negotiation and education of the public and my council. The collaboration between several entities, a complex infrastructure addition that will serve the Paw Paw community for decades to come has made me very proud.

4. My three greatest personal qualities are my patience to be tactful and kind in the face of adversity. I have great persistence in my work and am not afraid to face challenges. I am also very approachable, quick to make friends and love learning from others.

5. None.

6. I do request confidentiality.

4:00 P.M.
Ryan Cummins



CITY OF SAUGATUCK

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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DATE: 4/28/2024 NAME: Ryan Cummins

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] ZIP: [REDACTED]

PHONE: [REDACTED] EMAIL: [REDACTED]

The City of Saugatuck wishes to thank you for your interest in serving as their next City Manager. Please be advised that the information contained in the Candidate Questionnaire will be reviewed by the City Council. If you are selected for an interview, your Questionnaire could be published in the public City of Saugatuck City Council Agenda Packet.

Please complete the attached Candidate Questionnaire and return by email to (walshmuni@gmail.com) no later than Sunday, April 28, 2024.

1. Please tell us why you chose to apply to be our next City Manager?

"Smile! You're in Saugatuck". This mural has said it all for me since my work started with the City of Saugatuck.

When I first received a call from Frank Walsh nearly two years ago explaining there was an opportunity in Saugatuck, my first words to him were, "I love Saugatuck!". For the past year and a half, I've had the privilege of serving Saugatuck as both Director of Planning and Zoning and, currently, Interim City Manager. This experience has given me a unique perspective on the character of this special community. The recent accolade by USA Today, naming Saugatuck a top coastal small town – even surpassing Key West – is a testament to its undeniable charm.

From the engaged citizenry and stakeholders to the pristine beaches, waterfront, and natural resources, all the way to the vibrant and eclectic downtown that draws thousands each year, Saugatuck paints a clear picture of a thriving community. Leveraging my experience, knowledge of Saugatuck, and collaborative spirit, I'm eager to be a part of Saugatuck's continued success. I'm confident that by working closely with the Council, staff, and residents to capitalize on Saugatuck's strengths will allow me to effectively manage the City through its next chapter.

2. Please tell us about your current role and how your skills will enhance the City of Saugatuck.

Through several years of hands-on experience in various government departments and roles and working in a smaller community such as here in Saugatuck, I have developed the ability to wear multiple hats and be resourceful.

In my current staff role as Interim City Manager / Director of Planning, Zoning, and Project Management for Saugatuck and elected Mayor Pro Tem role in Grand Haven, I have developed several skills including successfully leading teams, strategic planning, collaboration, fiscal responsibility, problem-solving and communication.

I also gained an understanding of how important it is to learn the unique history, natural resources, and character of a community while also being innovative when planning for its future and success.

3. Please tell us about your proudest professional accomplishment.

A recent example would be the success of Saugatuck's Short-Term Rental Task Force. As the local Planning Commissioners and Council members made evaluating and addressing short-term rental concerns and opportunities a top priority for staff, I recommended that a diverse committee representing various stakeholders be formed. Many were skeptical and nervous about such a committee as Saugatuck's economy is based upon tourism and others worried their concerns about neighborhood issues wouldn't be heard. After several months of meetings, extensive public engagement, much study, and respectful dialogue, the Task Force formulated a quality set of recommendations.

Many in the community have praised how collaborative, engaging, thorough, and transparent the process was. While everyone may not agree on any final changes, residents and stakeholders felt heard and learned a lot along the way.

4. What do you consider to be your three greatest personal qualities?

Listener - I believe it is so important to actively listen and learn. I appreciate varying views and my listening skills have helped me to build successful working relationships.

Learner - I love learning how things work, exploring new places, and trying new things. I enjoy taking the opportunity to tour businesses, infrastructure projects, neighborhoods, and public spaces.

Public Servant - I am a government nerd and love that I can be a part of all the things we rely upon local government for each day such as public safety as we sleep, clean water for morning coffee, roads to get to work on, sidewalks for exercise, and parks to relax and enjoy nature.

5. The final candidate will be subject to a comprehensive background check, is there anything in your background that the City Council should be aware of at this time?

No

6. Under the Michigan Open Meetings Act, you are permitted to request confidentiality, your name will not be released until such a time you are granted, and accept, an interview.

Do you request confidentiality as permitted under the Michigan Open Meetings Act?
Confidentiality allows the elected body to review your candidacy in closed session.



YES

____ NO

5:00 P.M.
Michael Sheahan

Michael Sheahan

1. My military career has instilled a deep calling for public service; my career has developed a passion for leadership development and helping those around me. I came to Western Michigan in 2015 as the Operations Petty Officer of Coast Guard Station Grand Haven, where my love of Michigan began! Saugatuck is a community that deserves the efforts and care of its surroundings while maintaining its small charm. I want to be part of something that allows me to serve and improve the environment around me. I am not looking for a secondary career stepping stone; I am looking for a career that will enhance the community around me for a place I call home. The opportunity to be the next city manager allows me to apply my 21 years of leadership and strategic planning experience to Saugatuck while continuing to grow personally and professionally.
2. I currently serve as the Officer in Charge of Coast Guard Station Niagara, NY. I have end-to-end ownership of all operations for a 25-member complement. I have extensive interaction with all levels of government, including international with Canada. Being in government work for over two decades, I have a very intimate understanding of budget management and financial analysis in uncertain times. My emphasis on leadership and development and policy promulgation and implementation are challenges I have thrived in throughout my 21 Coast Guard Career. Combining teams of different cultures, beliefs, and values to achieve a common goal is a challenge I like taking on because the complex tasks are worth pursuing.
3. In 2017, I was able to advocate and accomplish a Coast Guard policy change that allowed members to efficiently attend training for critical certifications, reducing wait times by 90%. This was a proud moment because I worked through various levels of leadership, showing the policy's negative impact while providing the necessary data to show how the policy change would increase efficiency and reduce risk to the overall mission.

4. Integrity and transparency

Adaptability

Open minded and collaborative

5. In 2005 I did receive a DUI in the state of Washington at my first duty station. This has been something I have turned into a learning moment and a negative I have turned into a positive for others through being humble and open about the incident, which has deterred many other junior members from making the same mistake. It's a mistake I own and have no issue addressing and speaking on.
- I do not request confidentiality, I am open to my candidacy being reviewed in any setting open or closed.